

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 13060

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PFOR FR
SUBJECT: MITTERRAND REQUEST FOR PARIS MEETING WITH THE
SECRETARY

REFS: A. PARIS 12396; B. STATE 114878; C. STATE 119474

1. EMBASSY NOTIFIED SOCIALIST PARTY ON MAY 20 OF SECRETARY'S AGREEMENT TO MEET WITH MITTERRAND AT THE RESIDENCE AT 1830 ON MAY 27. ON MAY 21, MITTERRAND RESPONDED BY REQUESTING EMBASSY TO TRANSMIT TO THE SECRETARY THE FOLLOWING INVITATION: "THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE THE SECRETARY OF STATE AT HIS HOME FOR COCKTAILS AT 1830 ON MAY 27." ACCORDING TO MITTERRAND'S REPRESENTATIVE, THE SOCIALIST PARTY FIRST SECRETARY WANTS TO MEET WITH DR. KISSINGER SOMEWHERE BESIDE THE U.S. EMBASSY RESIDENCE IN ORDER TO AVOID GIVING TOO OFFICIAL A CHARACTER TO WHAT IS HOPED WILL BE A QUIET, INFORMAL MEETING.

2. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT SECRETARY POLITELY DECLINE THE INVITATION TO VISIT MITTERRAND AT HIS HOME FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS: (A) MITTERRAND'S HOME ON THE RUE DE BIEVRE IS IN THE HEART OF THE STUDENT QUARTER AND
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THEREFORE IMPRACTICAL FROM A NUMBER OF STANDPOINTS.

(B) FROM A POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH MITTERRAND BE HANDLED IN AS ROUTINE A MANNER AS POSSIBLE SO AS TO AVOID ANY IMPLICATION THAT SECRETARY IS MAKING AN ANTI-GOF GESTURE. APPOINTMENT AT THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE, AT MITTERRAND'S REQUEST, WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH PROCEDURES USED FOR SECRETARY TO MEET WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL PERSONALITIES IN FRANCE AND ELSEWHERE. SECRETARY'S CALL AT MITTERRAND'S HOME WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE DESCRIBED BY IMAGINATIVE FRENCH PRESS AS USG EFFORT TO PLACE RELATIONS WITH FRENCH OPPOSITION ON BASIS EQUAL TO RELATIONS WITH GIS-CARD D'ESTAING.

3. IF SECRETARY AGREES TO FOREGOING RECOMMENDATIONS, EMBASSY COULD RESPOND THAT BECAUSE OF SECRETARY'S HEAVY APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE, HE MUST DECLINE THE INVITATION TO HAVE DRINKS AT MITTERRAND'S HOME BUT WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE HIM AT THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE AT 1830 ON MAY 27 AS PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED.

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